

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A body for a refuse collection vehicle includes a frame on which are mounted a hopper compartment and an adjacent storage compartment. The hopper compartment has a pair of opposing sidewalls, a closed forward end, an open rear end and a hopper compartment floor at a first level. The storage compartment also has a forward end that opens into the hopper compartment, a rear end having a tailgate mounted thereon, and a storage compartment floor at a second level. The second level is raised above, or at an elevation higher than, the first level. The refuse collection vehicle body also includes a transition floor between the hopper compartment floor at the first level and the storage compartment floor at the second level, and a crusher panel that is adapted to apply a downwardly directed compressive force to refuse material in the hopper compartment and to sweep said refuse material from the hopper compartment into the storage compartment. The vehicle body also includes means for removing refuse material from the storage compartment.